

Message Text

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73

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /069 W

----- 001534

R 300922Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1059

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4780

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, ELAB, KS

SUBJECT: SHAKE-UP AT OFFICE OF LABOR AFFAIRS

1. RADIO ANNOUNCED MORNING OF JUNE 30 THAT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF OFFICE OF LABOR AFFAIRS (OLA) CHOE TUL-YOL HAD RESIGNED AND THAT FORMER DIRECTOR AT NATIONAL POLICY HEADQUARTERS CHOE SOK-WON HAD BEEN NOMINATED TO REPLACE HIM. BOTH CHOES ARE LAWYERS WITH MILITARY AND POLICE BACKGROUNDS. WHILE DISMISSAL OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND A FEW OTHER OFFICIALS ALSO ANTICIPATED, OLA SOURCE SAID THAT NO SIGNIFICANT POLICY CHANGES ARE LIKELY TO RESULT FROM PERSONNEL CHANGE.

2. SAME OLA SOURCE FURTHER INDICATED TO LABATT THAT BLUE HOUSE HAD BEEN DISSATISFIED FOR SOME TIME WITH CHOE AND THAT PRESIDENT PAK HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY ANNOYED OVER HIS SEVERAL TRIPS ABROAD IN RECENT MONTHS TO ASIAN LABOR MINISTER CONFERENCE, MIDEAST, US, CANADA, ILO CONFERENCE AND GERMANY. SOURCE ALSO CITED AS REASONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION THAT KCIA HAD RESENTED CHOE AND HAD REPORTED TO BLUE HOUSE MANY RUMORS OF OLA CORRUPTION, CRITICISM OVER CHOE'S DEALING WITH FK TU CHAIRMAN PAE SANG-HO (WHO
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HIMSELF MAY BE IN TROUBLE SOON) AND FAILURE OF CHOE TO

POLICE HIS DEPUTY PAK CHANG-KYU. (PAK IS WIDELY REPUTED
AS OLA GRAFT COLLECTOR AND HATCHET MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR
HAVING PURGED A NUMBER OF OLA OFFICIALS CONSIDERED AS
TOO "PROGRESSIVE." HOWEVER, SOURCE ADDED THAT IN HIS
PERSONAL OPINION CORRUPTION CHARGE AGAINST CHOE IS FALSE.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: PINS, PINT, ELAB, KS, (CHOE TUL-YOL), (CHOE SOK-WON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006